

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/776,426

Applicant(s)

PURDY ET AL.

Examiner

Richard V. Muralidar

Art Unit

2838

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 1/19/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-33.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

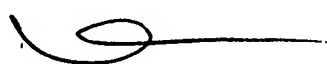
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
**KARL EASTHOM**  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

***Reasons for Allowance***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Independent claims 1, 15, and 25 are allowable because the prior art does not disclose or suggest: "a controller connected to said charger connector and said charging circuit for causing a portable device connected to said charger to **identify its corresponding portable device type and its corresponding rechargeable battery type**, and for causing said charging circuit to charge the rechargeable battery based thereon at the respective charging rates thereof."

The examiner notes the abundance of art available in which the battery is identified and charging commences therefrom. In this particular invention, the applicant's claims positively requires identification of both the battery type AND the portable device type, from a plurality of both battery types and device types. The purpose of identifying *both*, and not just the battery as is commonly done in the art, is because it is possible to place different batteries that have the *same voltage output level* into devices, despite the fact that each different battery can require a *different charging voltage*. This unique *charging* voltage of the battery may be *higher* than the voltage the device is capable of withstanding, compared to that of the device the battery is currently installed in. In this situation, if the charger cannot identify BOTH the device and the battery charging level, it is possible to provide a charging voltage that will maximize charging of the battery, but that will subsequently damage the device.

Frerking et al. [U.S. 2004/0104705] teaches battery identification. A programming resistor 241 in a universal connector allows a charger to identify the battery of (i.e. installed in; not and) the portable device, and commence charging. In par. 0038 and 0039, Frerking discloses:

with plug 272 of cord 270. Plug 272 is preferably a universal connector plug that is connected to a first end of cord 270. Plug 272 comprises programming resistor 241 that identifies the type and the voltage requirement of secondary battery 284 of portable device 280. The second end of cord 270

as well as:

mated with socket 240 or 242. Programming resistor 241 of plug 272 reports the voltage requirements of secondary battery 284 (that has been placed in portable device 280) to supervisory circuit 110.

Frerking does not disclose identifying the battery type of a portable device AND its portable device type. Frerking discloses identifying the battery of, or installed in, a portable device.

In par. 0041, Frerking further discloses:

[0041] It is noted that each of sockets 240 and 242 can receive other plugs of different device-specific charging cords for a variety of portable devices.

It may be possible to broadly interpret par. 0041 such that identification of the connected device may somehow be occurring though the use of the device-specific charging cord (it clearly is not, based on par. 0038 and 0039). However, even if this is broadly interpreted as such, Frerking does not disclose a controller for causing the portable device to identify its corresponding portable device type and its corresponding rechargeable battery type, and to effect charging based on the identification of both.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard V. Muralidar whose telephone number is 571-272-8933. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Karl D. Easthom can be reached on 571-272-1989. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RVM  
4/17/2007



**KARL EASTHOM**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**